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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

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Draft report

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

Dialogue with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes (Item 5 (c))

1. The Permanent Forum heard from UN entities about their activities to implement the System-Wide Action Plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the UNDRIP and progress on implementing the Forum's recommendations. UN entities also shared concerns about the impact of significant budget cuts and pushback on upholding the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the invisibility of Indigenous Peoples in data.
2. The UN Inter-Agency Group on Indigenous Issues outlined an accountability framework involving UN resident coordinators to assess successes and challenges in implementing the UNDRIP. The Forum welcomes this initiative and urges the UN to ensure this process is implemented, including in Member States that withhold recognition of Indigenous Peoples.
3. UN entities recommended that Indigenous Peoples strengthen advocacy and engagement at the national level, including with Parliamentarians, financial mechanisms, plans, and programmes. The Forum acknowledges the opportunity to engage and promote Indigenous Peoples' rights in the FAO's Commission on Genetic Resources and the World Committee on Food Security in discussions on ultra-processed food and the Code of Conduct for Pesticides.



4. UN entities are urged to strengthen and facilitate Indigenous women's and youth's engagement in decision-making across the UN, enhancing capacity-building, knowledge exchange and advisory roles.
5. Many UN treaty negotiations – such as the WHO Pandemic Agreement – lacked Indigenous Peoples' meaningful participation. The Forum urges States to strengthen Indigenous Peoples' effective engagement when deciding on participation modalities in ongoing and future UN treaty negotiations.
6. The Forum expresses concern over the current implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, where reliance on state and non-state intermediaries and efforts designed by states continues to marginalize Indigenous Peoples whose lands and territories are central to restoration efforts. The Permanent Forum calls on UNEP to fulfil the Decade's transformative promise by ensuring the recognition of Indigenous Peoples as rights-holders and ecological stewards, ensuring direct access to finance, and embedding their leadership in the next five-year strategic plans in the mechanisms supporting Indigenous-led restoration.
7. UN entities should ensure the inclusion, equality, and equity of Indigenous Peoples in humanitarian responses.
8. The Forum urges the WHO to establish a standing Indigenous-led Advisory Committee to the Director-General regarding Indigenous Peoples' Health to steer, monitor, and report annually on the implementation and ongoing operationalization of WHA 76.16. This Committee should be majority Indigenous Peoples, gender-balanced, regionally diverse, and chosen through Indigenous representative institutions, in line with free, prior, and informed consent.